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An ORATION *on the* ADVANTAGES *of* INDEPENDENCE: *Spoken at Charleſtown, South-Carolina, on the ſecond Anniverſary of that Æra, by Dr.* RAMSAY, *and dedicated to* CHRISTOPHER GADSDEN, *Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor of the State, at whoſe Requeſt it was originally drawn up.*

Friends and Fellow-Citizens,

IMPRESSED with the deepeſt ſenſe of my inſufficiency, I riſe to addreſs you with peculiar diffidence. When I conſider the knowledge and eloquence neceſſary to diſplay the glorious proſpect which Independence opens to this continent, I am ſtung with a degree of ſelf-reproach, for undertaking the important taſk. But your known attachment to the cauſe of America encourages me to hope, that you will receive with indulgence a well intended exertion to promote her welfare, and emboldens me to caſt myſelf on that candour, which looks with kindneſs on the feebleſt efforts of an honeſt mind.

We are now celebrating the anniverſary of our emancipation from Britiſh tyranny; an event that will conſtitute an illuſtrious æra in the hiſtory of the world, and which promiſes an extenſion of all thoſe bleſſings to our country, for which we would chooſe to live, or dare to die.

Our preſent form of government is every way preferable to the royal one we have lately renounced. It is much more favourable to purity of morals, and better calculated to promote all our important intereſts. Honeſty, plain dealing, and ſimple manners, were never made the patterns of courtly behaviour. Artificial manners always prevail in kingly governments; and royal courts are reſervoirs, from whence inſincerity, hypocriſy, diſſimulation, pride, luxury and extravagance deluge and overwhelm the body of a people. On the other hand, republics are favourable to truth, ſincerity, frugality, induſtry, and ſimplicity of manners. Equality, the life and ſoul of commonwealth, cuts off all pretenſions to preferment, but thoſe which ariſe from extraordinary merit: Whereas, in royal governments, he that can beſt pleaſe his ſuperiors by the low arts of fawning and adulation, is moſt likely to obtain favour.

It was the intereſt of Great-Britain to encourage our diſſipation and extravagance, for the two-fold purpoſe of *increaſing the ſale of her manufactures*, and of *perpetuating our ſubordination*. In vain we ſought to check the growth of luxury by ſumptuary laws. Every wholeſome reſtraint of this kind was ſure to meet with the royal negative; while the whole force of example was employed to induce us to copy the diſſipated manners of the country from which we ſprung. If, therefore, we had continued dependent, our frugality, induſtry and ſimplicity of manners would have been loſt in an imitation of Britiſh extravagance, idleneſs, and falſe refinements.

How much more happy is our preſent ſituation, when neceſſity, co-operating with the love of our country, compels us to adopt both public and private œconomy! Many are now induſtriouſly cloathing themſelves and their families in ſober homeſpun, who, had we remained dependent, would have been ſpending their time in idleneſs, and ſtrutting in the coſtly robes of Britiſh gaiety. The Arts and Sciences, which languiſhed under the low proſpects of ſubjection, will now raiſe their drooping heads, and ſpread far and wide, till they have reached the remoteſt parts of this untutored continent. It is the happineſs of our preſent conſtitution, that all offices lie open to men of merit, of whatever rank or condition, and that even the reins of ſtate may be held by the ſon of the pooreſt man, if poſſeſſed of abilities equal to the important ſtation. We are no more to look up for the bleſſings of government to hungry courtiers, or the needy dependents of Britiſh Nobility; but muſt educate our own children for theſe exalted purpoſes. When ſubjects, we had ſcarce any other ſhare in government, but to obey the arbitrary mandates of a Britiſh Parliament; but honour, with her dazzling pomp—intereſt, with her golden lure--and patriotiſm, with her heart-felt ſatisfaction, jointly call upon us now to qualify ourſelves and poſterity for the bench, the army, the navy, the learned profeſſions, and all the departments of civil government. The Independence of our country holds forth ſuch generous encouragement to youth, as cannot fail of making many of them deſpiſe the ſyren calls of luxury and myrth, and purſue heaven-born wiſdom with unwearied application. A few years will now produce a much greater number of men of learning and abilities, than we could have expected for ages in our boyiſh ſtate of minority, guided by the leading-ſtrings of a parent country.

How trifling the objects of deliberation that came before our former Legiſlative Aſſemblies, compared with the great and important matters on which they muſt now decide. They might then, *with the leave of the King*, his Governors and Councils, make laws about *yoking hogs*, *branding cattle*, or *marking rice*; but they are now called upon to determine on peace and war, treaties and negociations with foreign States, and other ſubjects intereſting to the peace, liberty, ſovereignty and independence of a wide extended empire. No wonder that ſo little attention has been paid to learning; for ignorance was better than knowledge, while our abject and humiliating condition ſo effectually tended to cruſh the exertions of the human mind, and to extinguiſh a generous ardour for literary preeminence.

The times in which we live, and the governments we have lately adopted, all conſpire to fan the ſparks of genius in every breaſt, and kindle them into flame. When like children we were under the guardianſhip of a foreign power, our limited attention was naturally engroſſed by agriculture, or directed to the low purſuit of wealth; in this ſtate, the powers of the ſoul, benumbed with eaſe and indolence, ſunk us into ſloth and effeminacy. Hardſhips, dangers, and proper opportunities give ſcope to active virtues, and rouſe the mind to ſuch vigorous exertions, as command the admiration of an applauding world. Rome, when ſhe filled the earth with the terror of her arms, ſometimes called her Generals from the plough: In like manner, the great want of proper perſons to fill high ſtations has drawn from obſcurity many illuſtrious characters, which will dazzle the world with the ſplendor of their names. The neceſſities of our country require the utmoſt exertions of all our powers; from which vigorous united efforts much more improvement of the human mind is to be expected, than if we had remained in a torpid ſtate of dependence.

Eloquence is the child of a free State. In this form of government, as public meaſures are determined by a majority of votes, arguments enforced by the arts of perſwaſion muſt evermore be crowned with ſucceſs. The riſing patriot therefore, who wiſhes the happineſs of his country, will cultivate the art of public ſpeaking. In royal governments, where the will of one or a few has the direction of public meaſures, the orator may harangue, but moſt probably will reap proſecution and impriſonment, as the fruit of his labour: Whereas in our preſent happy ſyſtem, the pooreſt ſchool-boy may proſecute his ſtudies with increaſing ardour, from the proſpect that in a few years he may, by his improved abilities, direct the determinations of public bodies on ſubjects of the moſt ſtupendous conſequence.

Thus might I go through the whole circle of the arts and ſciences, and ſhew, that while we remained Britiſh ſubjects, cramped and reſtrained by the limited views of dependence, each one of them would dwindle and decay, compared with the perfection and glory in which they will bloom and flouriſh, under the enlivening ſunſhine of freedom and independence. I appeal to the experience of all, whether they do not feel an elevation of ſoul growing out of the emancipation of their country, while they recollect that they are no longer ſubject to lawleſs will, but poſſeſs the powers of ſelf-government, and are called upon to bear an active part in ſupporting and perpetuating the ſovereignty of the United States, and in organizing them in ſuch a manner, as will produce the greateſt portion of political happineſs to the preſent and future generations. In this elevation of ſoul conſiſts true genius, which is cramped by kingly government, and can only flouriſh in free States.

The attention of thouſands is now called forth from their ordinary employments, to ſubjects connected with the ſovereignty and happineſs of a great continent. As no one can tell to what extent the human mind may be cultivated, ſo no one can foreſee what great events may be brought into exiſtence, by the exertions of ſo many minds expanded by cloſe attention to ſubjects of ſuch vaſt importance.

The Royal Society was founded immediately after the termination of the civil wars in England. In like manner, may we not hope, as ſoon as this conteſt is ended, that the exalted ſpirits of our politicians and warriors will engage in the enlargement of public happineſs, by cultivating the arts of peace, and promoting uſeful knowledge, with an ardour equal to that which firſt rouſed them to bleed in the cauſe of liberty and their country? Their genius, ſharpened by their preſent glorious exertions, will naturally ſeek for a continuance of ſuitable employment. Having, with well tried ſwords and prudent councils, ſecured Liberty and Independence for themſelves and poſterity, their great ſouls will ſtoop to nothing leſs than concerting wiſe ſchemes of civil polity and happineſs—inſtructing the world in uſeful arts—and extending the empire of ſcience. I foreſee ſocieties formed of our Heroes and Stateſmen, releaſed from their preſent cares; ſome of which will teach mankind to plough, ſow, plant, build, and improve the rough face of nature, while others critically examine the various productions of the animal and mineral kingdoms, and teach their countrymen to "look through Nature up to Nature's God." Little has been hitherto done towards compleating the natural hiſtory of America, or for the improvement of agriculture, and the peaceful arts of civil life; but who will be ſurprized at this who conſiders, that, during the long paſt night of one hundred and fifty years, our minds were depreſſed, and our activity benumbed, by the low proſpects of ſubjection? Future diligence will convince the candid world, that paſt inattention was the effect of our dependent form of government.

Every circumſtance concurs to make it probable that the Arts and Sciences will be cultivated, extended and improved in independent America. They require a freſh ſoil, and always flouriſh moſt in new countries. A large volume of the book of nature, yet unread, is open before us, and invites our attentive peruſal. Many uſeful plants, unknown to the moſt induſtrious botaniſt, waſte their virtues in our deſert air. Various parts of our country, hitherto untrod by the foot of any Chymiſt, abound with different minerals. We ſtand on the ſhoulders of our predeceſſors, with reſpect to the arts that depend on experiment and obſervation. The face of our country, interſected by rivers, or covered by woods and ſwamps, gives ample ſcope for the improvement of mechanics, mathematics, and natural philoſophy. Our free governments are the proper nurſeries of rhetoric, criticiſm, and the arts which are founded on the philoſophy of the human mind. In monarchies, an extreme degree of politeneſs diſguiſes the ſimplicity of nature, and "ſets the looks at variance with the thoughts." In republics, mankind appear as they really are, without any falſe colouring. In theſe governments therefore, attentive obſervers have an opportunity of knowing all the avenues to the heart, and of thoroughly underſtanding human nature. The great inferiority of the moderns to the antients in fine writing, is to be referred to this veil caſt over mankind by the artificial refinements of modern monarchies. From the operation of ſimilar cauſes, it is hoped that the free governments of America will produce Poets, Orators, Critics and Hiſtorians, equal to the moſt celebrated of the antient commonwealths of Greece and Italy.

Large empires are leſs favourable to true philoſophy than ſmall independent ſtates. The authority of a great author is apt, in the former caſe, to extinguiſh a free enquiry, and to give currency to falſehood unexamined. The doctrines of Confucius were believed all over China, and the philoſophy of Deſcartes in France; but neighbouring nations, examining them without partiality or prepoſſeſſion, exploded them both. For the ſame reaſon, our ſeparate ſtates, jealous of the literary reputation of each other, and uninfluenced by any partial biaſs, will critically pry into the merit of every new opinion and ſyſtem, and nought but truth will ſtand the teſt, and finally prevail.

In monarchies, favour is the ſource of preferment; but in our new forms of government no one can command the ſuffrages of the people, unleſs by his ſuperior merit and capacity.

The weight of each ſtate, in the continental ſcale, will ever be proportioned to the abilities of its Repreſentatives in Congreſs. Hence an emulation will take place, each contending with the other which ſhall produce the moſt accompliſhed ſtateſmen. From the joint influence of all theſe combined cauſes, it may ſtrongly be preſumed that literature will flouriſh in America, and that our Independence will be an illuſtrious epocha, remarkable for the ſpreading and improvement of Science.

A zeal for promoting learning, unknown in the days of our ſubjection, has already begun to overſpread theſe United States. In the laſt Seſſion of our Aſſembly three Societies were incorporated, for the laudable purpoſe of erecting ſeminaries of education. Nor is the noble ſpirit confined to us alone. Even now, amidſt the tumults of war, literary inſtitutions

are forming all over the continent, which muſt light up ſuch a blaze of knowledge, as cannot fail to burn, and catch, and ſpread, until it has finally illuminated, with the rays of Science, the moſt diſtant retreats of ignorance and barbarity.

Our change of government ſmiles upon our commerce with an aſpect peculiarly benign and favourable. In a few years, we may expect to ſee the colours of France, Spain, Holland, Pruſſia, Portugal, and thoſe of every other maritime power, waving on our coaſts, whilſt Americans unfurl the thirteen ſtripes in the remoteſt harbours of the world. Our different climates and ſoils produce a great variety of uſeful commodities. The ſea waſhes our coaſt along an extenſive tract of two thouſand miles; and no country abounds in a greater plenty of the materials for ſhip-building, or has a better proſpect of a reſpectable navy. Our ſtately oaks, the greater part of which would probably have withered in their native ſpots, had we remained ſubjects, will now be converted into ſhips of war, to ride triumphant on the ocean, and to carry American thunder around the world. Whole foreſts will be transformed into veſſels of commerce, enriching this independent continent with the produce of every clime and every ſoil. The wealth of Europe, Aſia and Africa will flow in upon America; our trade will no longer be confined by the ſelfiſh regulations of an avaricious ſtepdame, but follow wherever intereſt leads the way. Our great object, as a trading people, ſhould be to procure the beſt prices for our commodities, and foreign articles at the moſt reaſonable rates; but all this was cruelly reverſed by acts of the Britiſh Parliament, regulating our trade in a ſubſerviency to their own emolument, our intereſt being entirely out of the queſtion. It requires but a moment's recollection to convince us, that as we now have a free trade with all the world, we ſhall obtain a more generous price for our produce, and foreign goods on eaſier terms, than we ever could while we were ſubject to a Britiſh monopoly.* The boaſted act of navigation was not intended for our advantage, nor for the advantage of the whole empire, but was a glaring monument of the all-graſping nature of unlimited power. To enumerate all the ungenerous reſtrictions impoſed by the Britiſh government on American commerce, would be an outrage on patience. Time only will unfold the whole of this myſtery of iniquity. A few years experience will ſhew ſuch an amazing difference between the fettered trade of the Britiſh colonies, and the extenſive commerce of the free, independent States of America, as will cauſe us to ſtand amazed that we ſo long and ſo patiently ſubmitted to ſo many and ſuch cruel reſtrictions. In one word, ſo long as we remained dependent, the commerce of this great continent would have been ſacrificed to the intereſt of a ſelfiſh European iſland.

Carolina had particular reaſon to wiſh for the free trade of independence. † The whole iſland of Great-Britain did not annually conſume more than 5000 barrels of her ſtaple commodity, rice; and yet it was an enumerated article. The charge on unloading, reloading, and ſhifting every caſk, owing to this enumeration, was immenſe, though it ſerved no other purpoſe but to procure jobs for Britiſh coopers and wharfingers. So little regard was had to our intereſt while dependent, that this enumeration was obtained by the inſtigation of a Captain Cole. Several veſſels coming from England before him, and purchaſing rice for Portugal, prevented the aforeſaid Captain of a loading; he returned, and, in reſentment, ſaid carrying rice to Portugal was a prejudice to the trade of England; and on this ſingle inſtance, ſo ill founded and ſupported, rice became an enumerated article. ‡ How could our trade flouriſh, or our produce bring its full value, while reſtricted by a legiſlature ſo regardleſs of our intereſt, that a petty Captain, to ſecure himſelf a cargoe, could prevent our ſtaple from being ſent directly to a foreign market.

Union with Great-Britain confined us to the conſumption of her manufactures, and reſtrained us from ſupplying our wants by the improvement of thoſe articles which the bounty of Heaven had beſtowed on our country. So numerous were the inhabitants of ſome provinces, that they could not all find employment in cultivating the earth; and yet a ſingle hat, manufactured in one colony, and exported for ſale to another, forfeited both veſſel and cargoe. The ſame penalties were inflicted for tranſporting wool from one to another. Acts of Parliament have been made to prohibit the erection of ſlitting-mills in America. Thus did Britiſh tyranny exert her power to make us a needy and dependent people, obliged to go to her market, and to buy at her prices; and all this at a time, when, by her excluſive trade, ſhe fixed her own prices on our commodities.

How widely different is our preſent ſituation! The glorious fourth of July, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſix, repealed all theſe cruel reſtrictions, and holds forth generous prices, and public premiums, for our encouragement in the erection of all kinds of manufactures.

We are the firſt people in the world, who have had it in their power to chooſe their own form of government. Conſtitutions were forced on all other nations by the will of their conquerors; or they were formed by accident, caprice, or the overbearing influence of prevailing parties or particular perſons: But, happily for us, the bands of Britiſh government were diſſolved at a time when no rank above that of freemen exiſted among us, and when we were in a capacity to chooſe for ourſelves among the various forms of government, and to adopt that which beſt ſuited our country and people. Our deliberations on this occaſion were not directed by the over-grown authority of a conquering General, or the ambition of an aſpiring nobility, but by the pole-ſtar of public good, inducing us to prefer thoſe forms that would moſt effectually ſecure the greateſt portion of political happineſs to the greateſt number of people. We had the example of all ages for our inſtruction, and many among us were well acquainted with the cauſes of proſperity and miſery in other governments.

In times of public tranquility, the mighty have been too apt to encroach on the rights of the many: But it is the great happineſs of America, that her independent conſtitutions were agreed upon by common conſent, at a time when her leading men needed the utmoſt ſupport of the multitude, and therefore could have no other object in view, but the formation of ſuch conſtitutions as would beſt ſuit the people at large, and unite them moſt heartily in repelling common dangers.

As the ſtrength of a people conſiſts in their numbers, our ſeparate States, ſenſible of their weakneſs, were actually excited by ſelf-intereſt to form ſuch free governments, as would encourage the greateſt influx of inhabitants.

In this manner, an emulation has virtually taken place in all the Thirteen States, each contending with the others, who ſhould form the freeſt conſtitution. Thus independence has been the fruitful parent of governments formed on equal principles, more favourato the liberty and happineſs of the governed than any that have yet been recorded in the annals of hiſtory.

While we were dependent on Britain, our freedom was out of the queſtion; for what is a free ſtate, but one that is governed by its own will? What ſhadow of liberty then could we poſſeſs, when the ſingle No of a King, 3000 miles diſtant, was ſufficient to repeal any of our laws, however uſeful and ſalutary; and when we were to be bound in all caſes whatſoever by men, in whoſe election we had no vote, who had an intereſt oppoſed to ours, and over whom we had no controul? The wit of man could not poſſibly deviſe any mode, that would unite the freedom of America with Britain's claim of unlimitted ſupremacy. We were therefore reduced to the alternative of Liberty and Independence, or Slavery and Union. We wiſely choſe to cut the gordian knot which tied old Britain to the new, and to aſſume our independent ſtation among the empires of the world. Britain, had ſhe honeſtly intended it, was incapable of governing us for the great purpoſes of government. Our great diſtance, and other local circumſtances, made it impoſſible for her to be ſufficiently acquainted with our ſituation and wants. But admitting it was in her power, we had no reaſon to expect that ſhe would hold the reins of government for any other end but her own advantage. Human nature is too ſelfiſh, too ambitious, for us to expect that one country will govern another for any but intereſted purpoſes. To obtain the ſalutary ends of government, we muſt blend the intereſts of the people and their rulers; or elſe the former will infallibly be ſacrificed to the latter. Hence the abſurdity of our expecting ſecurity, liberty and ſafety, while we were ſubjects of a ſtate a thouſand leagues diſtant.

Connection with Britain involved us in all her quarrels; and ſuch is the fluctuating ſtate of her politics, that we could not long expect a political calm. In vain did the Atlantic ocean interpoſe; for by our unnatural union we were neceſſarily dragged into every war, which her pride or ambition might occaſion. Beſides, as ſhe conſidered the colonies as her property, what was to hinder her from ceding any or all of them to the different European States. Thus, while we had no independent government of our own, we might have been the ſport of various contending powers, and toſſed about, like a foot-ball, from one to the other.

Our independence will naturally tend to fill our country with inhabitants. Where life, liberty and property, are well ſecured, and where land is eaſily and cheaply obtained, the natural increaſe of people will much exceed all European calculations. Add to this, the inhabitants of the old world becoming acquainted with our excellent forms of government, will emigrate by thouſands. In their native lands, the hard earned fruits of uninterrupted labour are ſcarcely equal to a ſcanty ſupply of their natural wants, and this pittance is held on a very precarious tenure; while our ſoil may be cheaply purchaſed, and will abundantly repay the toil of the huſbandman, whoſe property no rapacious landlord dare invade. Happy America! whoſe extent of territory weſtward is ſufficient to accommodate with land thouſands and millions of the virtuous peaſants, who now groan beneath tyranny and oppreſſion in three quarters of the globe. Who would remain in Europe, a dependant on the will of an imperious landlord, when a few years induſtry can make him an independent American freeholder?

Such will be the fruits of our glorious revolution, that in a little time gay fields, adorned with the yellow robes of ripening harveſt, will ſmile in the remoteſt depths of our weſtern frontiers, where impaſſable foreſts now frown over the uncultivated earth. The face of our interior country will be changed from a barren wilderneſs into the hoſpitable abodes of peace and plenty. Cities too will riſe majeſtic to the view, on thoſe very ſpots which are now howled over by ſavage beaſts and more ſavage men.

The population of this country has been heretofore very rapid; but it is worthy of obſervation that this has varied more or leſs, in proportion to the degrees of liberty that were granted to the different provinces by their charters. Pennſylvania and New-England, tho' inferior in ſoil, being bleſt originally with the moſt free forms of government, have outſtripped others in the relative increaſe of their inhabitants. Hence I infer, that as we are all now compleatly free and independent, we ſhall populate much faſter than we ever have done, or ever would, while we were controuled by the jealous policy of an inſignificant iſland.

We poſſeſs thouſands and millions of acres, which we may ſell out to new ſettlers, on terms very eaſy to them, and yet ſufficient to defray the whole expence of the preſent war. When the quit-rents, formerly paid to the King, ſhall be appropriated to the independent States, they will fill our treaſuries to ſo great a degree, that foreign nations, knowing that we abound in the ſinews of war, will be afraid to provoke us. In a few years, when our finances are properly arranged, the ſtoppage of thoſe ſums which were formerly drained from us, to ſupport the pride and extravagance of the Britiſh King, will be an ample proviſion, without taxes, for defraying the expence of our independent governments.

It is difficult to compute the number of advantages ariſing from our preſent glorious ſtruggle; harder ſtill, perhaps impoſſible, preciſely to aſcertain their extent. It has attracted the attention of all Europe to the nature of civil liberty, and the rights of the people. Our conſtitutions, pregnant with the ſeeds of liberty and happineſs, have been tranſlated into a variety of languages, and ſpread far and wide. Who can tell what great events, now concealed in the womb of time, may be brought into exiſtence by the nations of the old world emulating our ſucceſsful efforts in the cauſe of liberty? The thrones of tyranny and deſpotiſm will totter, when their ſubjects ſhall learn and know, by our example, that the happineſs of the people is the end and object of all government. The wondering world has beheld the ſmiles of Heaven on the numerous ſons of America reſolving to die or be free: Perhaps this noble example, like a wide ſpreading conflagration, may catch from breaſt to breaſt, and extend from nation to nation, till tyranny and oppreſſion are utterly extirpated from the face of the earth.* The tyrants and landlords of the old world, who hold a great part of their fellow men in bondage becauſe of their dependence for land, will be obliged to relax of their arbitrary treatment, when they find that America is an aſylum for freemen from all quarters of the globe. They will be cautious of adding to the oppreſſions of their poor ſubjects and tenants, leſt they ſhould force them to abandon their country

* *That Britiſh merchants give us a low price for our commodities appears from this ſingle conſideration—They made money by exporting them from England. If they found it profitable to export tobacco, rice, indigo, &c. from Britain, it muſt be in conſequence of their allowing the American Coloniſts leſs for thoſe articles, than they would have brought in European markets. In this manner much of our produce was ſold to the conſumers, loaded with double freight, inſurance and commiſſions, over and above the additional expence of unloading and re-loading in Great-Britain. The induſtrious American planter received no more for his produce, than the pittance the Britiſh merchant, after reſerving his own profit, was pleaſed to allow on the ſale thereof, brought to market charged with this unneceſſary expence. The diſtance from America to thoſe places of Europe, which conſumed our ſtaples, is generally leſs than to the Britiſh ports. From all which premiſes it appears undeniably evident, that American commodities, carried directly to the countries where they are conſumed, will produce much more clear profit to the planter, than when they arrived there by the circuitous way of Great-Britain.*

The ſame reaſoning holds good with reſpect to many articles imported from England, which were not of its own growth or manufacture; for they would come much cheaper from the countries where they were made, than they ever could, while we were obliged to receive them through the hands of Britiſh merchants, loaded with double freight, inſurance, commiſſions, and ſometimes with duties. If intereſt had not ſilenced the voice of juſtice, Great-Britain, while ſhe obliged us to buy at her market, would have conſidered herſelf as bound to ſupply our wants as cheap as they could have been ſupplied elſewhere; but, inſtead of this, ſhe not only fixed exorbitant prices on articles of her own production, but refuſed us the liberty of buying from foreigners thoſe articles which her own markets did not afford, and had alſo begun the fatal policy of ſuper-adding additional duties. What a ſcene of oppreſſion does this open to us! A great part of the price for which our commodities ſold in Europe was lodged in Britiſh coffers, and we were obliged to buy manufactures of her production at prices of her own fixing, and were reſtrained from buying thoſe articles which ſhe could not raiſe where they could be got cheapeſt: Beſides, as we durſt not buy from any others, they had it in their power to fix any advance on the firſt coſt that their avarice preſcribed, and our neceſſities would permit.

† *The tobacco colonies were alſo great loſers by the Britiſh monopoly of trade. The duties on their ſtaple amounted to more than half the firſt coſt. Tobacco, exported from Britain, ſold in European markets for more than double the ſum the American planter received for it. If it ſhould become a cuſtom in the United States to celebrate the anniverſary of Independence with an annual oration, it is hoped that ſome citizen of Virginia or Maryland will place the ſelfiſh reſtrictions on the exportation of this valuable commodity in a proper light.*

‡ Gee *on Trade, page* 21.

* *Britain will eventually loſe leſs by our Independence than is commonly ſuppoſed. The king and miniſtry may be cured of their luſt of domination, and will be deprived of influence and the means of corruption: While ſhe had a monopoly of our trade, it encouraged idleneſs and extravagance in her manufacturers, becauſe they were ſure of a market for their goods, though dear and ill made; but, as Independence will beſtow our commerce on thoſe who moſt deſerve it, this will be the means of introducing frugality and induſtry among her labouring poor. Our population will be ſo much the more rapid for our free governments, that, in my humble opinion, that part of our trade which will fall to the ſhare of Great-Britain, if ſhe has the wiſdom to conclude a ſpeedy peace, will be more to her advantage than a monopoly of the whole of it, if we had remained ſubjects.*

for the enjoyment of the ſweets of American liberty. In this view of the matter, I am confident that the cauſe of America is the cauſe of human nature, and that it will extend its influence to thouſands who will never ſee it, and procure them a mitigation of the cruelties and oppreſſions impoſed by their arbitrary taſkmaſters.

If ſuch be the glorious conſequences of independence, who can be ſo loſt to every generous ſentiment, as to wiſh to return under royal domination? Who would not rather count it an honour to ſtand among the foremoſt, in doing and ſuffering in a cauſe ſo intimately connected with the happineſs of human nature? Away with all the peeviſh complaints of the hardneſs of the times, and the weight of the taxes. The prize for which we contend, would be cheaply purchaſed, with double the expence of blood, treaſure and difficulty, it will ever coſt us.

Our independent conſtitutions, formed on the juſteſt principles, promiſe fair to give the moſt perfect protection to life, liberty and property, equally to the poor and the rich. As at the conflagration of Corinth, the various melted metals running together formed a new one, called Corinthian braſs, which was ſuperior to any of its component parts; in like manner, perhaps, it is the will of Heaven that a new empire ſhould be here formed, of the different nations of the old world, which will riſe ſuperior to all that have gone before it, and extend human happineſs to its utmoſt poſſible limits. None can tell to what perfection the arts of government may be brought. May we not therefore expect great things from the patriots of this generation, jointly co-operating to make the new-born republics of America as compleat as poſſible. Is it not to be hoped, that human nature will here receive her moſt finiſhed touches? That the arts and ſciences will be extended and improved? That religion, learning and liberty, will be diffuſed over this continent? And, in ſhort, that the American editions of the human mind will be more perfect than any that have yet appeared. Great things have been atchieved in the infancy of States; and the ardour of a new people riſing to empire and renown, with proſpects that tend to elevate the human ſoul, encourages theſe flattering expectations.

[*Remainder in our next.*]

BOSTON, December 31.

From Tueſday morning till Friday night laſt we had the moſt ſevere cold weather here that has been known for many years paſt, which was followed by a moſt violent ſtorm of ſnow, and continued till Sunday morning.

In the above ſtorm one Mr. William Biſhop, of Cumberland, in the State of Rhode-Iſland, returning from this town with a team of four oxen and a horſe, through the ſeverity of the weather, miſſed his way as he was croſſing the neck, and got upon Lamb's dam, where he, with his cattle and horſe, periſhed. The team was diſcovered on Sunday afternoon, but the body of the unfortunate man was not found before Monday. From ſeveral circumſtances it appears, that as he found it impoſſible to ſave his team, he left it, and was making towards the barrack, in a fort near by, but, having proceeded but a few rods, expired in the attempt.

Three Frenchmen were found dead in Roxbury on Monday, ſuppoſed to have periſhed in the above ſtorm.

Alſo, in the above ſtorm, two veſſels, viz. a ſchooner from France (ſuppoſed to be Captain Iſrael Ober, who but laſt week arrived from France) and a ſloop, commanded by Captain Banks, from Saco, went aſhore at Cape Ann; but providentially no lives were loſt.

'Tis reported ſeveral veſſels have ſhared the ſame fate on the back of the Cape.

PHILADELPHIA, January 20.

The Council have appointed and commiſſioned William Ball, William Adcock, Samuel Morris, and Joſeph Ruſh, Juſtices of the Peace of the City and County of Philadelphia.

Benjamin Paſchall, Eſq; is appointed one of the Judges of the City Court.

Extract of a letter from Baltimore, January 6.

"Some days ago arrived here from St. Euſtatia, Capt. Veſey, in a ten gun ſloop, who, on the 21ſt ult. was ſpoke by the Privateer St. Patrick from New-York. A Continental Captain, paſſenger on board Captain Veſey, aſked him if he would not take the privateer? to which he anſwered he could not, being a Dutch bottom---that he would only defend himſelf. Upon which the Continental Captain, with ſome other paſſengers, confined Capt. Veſey until they took poſſeſſion of her. They have brought her up here. She had a few days before taken two veſſels, Captain Williams and Captain Elliſon."

In COUNCIL, January 13, 1779.

WHEREAS verbal applications have by experience proved very inconvenient to this Board, and productive of great delay to the public buſineſs: Therefore

Ordered, That the Secretary do give notice that, except in extraordinary caſes, all applications to Council be made in writing, when they will be conſidered and diſpatched in the order of time in which they are preſented.

Extract from the Minutes,
T. MATLACK, Secretary.

In CONGRESS, *December* 18, 1778.

WHEREAS it is repreſented to Congreſs, that it will be more agreeable to adventurers in the Lottery of the United States to have the blanks drawn as well as the prizes, and that the public will thereby have an opportunity, during the time of drawing, to purchaſe the tickets which may remain unſold at the commencement thereof.

Reſolved, That the Managers be directed to draw the blanks and prizes of the ſecond claſs of the ſaid Lottery.

Extract from the Minutes,
CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

TREASURY-OFFICE, December 19, 1778.

Ordered, That after the firſt day of January next the ſale of the ſaid tickets be continued by the Managers of the Lottery, in the city of Philadelphia, and in no other place.

In conſequence of the above reſolve of Congreſs, the Managers acquaint the public, that after the firſt day of January next, the time the Lottery commences drawing, tickets will be ſold by the Managers at their office, where the Check Clerk, with a majority of the Managers, will attend, in order that the adventurers may be aſſured the tickets bought are not drawn. The above ſale of tickets will be made from 8 o'clock in the morning till 11, the time the drawing commences, and from 5 till 7 o'clock in the afternoon, and at no other time or place.

[The different Printers throughout the States are requeſted to continue the above while the drawing continues.]

THE Adventurers in the Second Claſs of the United States LOTTERY may know the fate of their Tickets by applying to the Check Clerk every morning and evening at the Lottery Office, or at the place of drawing, for Six-pence a ticket.

N. B. The enquirers are intreated to bring change, to avoid trouble and delay.

Will be Publiſhed on the firſt Wedneſday of February, 1779, and on the firſt Wedneſday of every month following,

THE UNITED STATES MAGAZINE.

The price of the Magazine, for the firſt month, will be

I. TO the adventitious purchaſer of a ſingle copy, *Three dollars.*

II. By the quantity of Twelve Copies, *Two and one half dollars.*

III. To the Subſcriber for a ſingle copy, on advancing twenty four dollars, *Two dollars.*

The Publiſher will riſe or fall in the price of the Magazine with the prices of other articles and commodities in general.

The favours of the Ingenious, legibly written, and communicated poſt-free, will be gratefully received and inſerted.

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And the Public's very humble Servant,
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All kinds of Printing-Work is carefully and expeditiouſly performed by ſaid BAILEY. He has for ſale, *Spelling-Books*, bound and in ſheets.

TO BE SOLD,

For good emiſſions of May 20th, 1777, and April 11th, 1778, within the Weſtern Diviſion of the State of New-Jerſey,

TEN thouſand acres of unappropriated rights to lands, the title warranted good and indiſputable. Application may be made to Mr. JOHN LEE, at Mount-Pleaſant, near Mount-Holly, New-Jerſey.

N. B. Any quantity from fifty acres upwards may be had.

LAST Saturday afternoon a man that was wheeling a keg along one of the ſtreets, the contents of which he had taſted too freely of, ſtopped near a houſe in Third-ſtreet, and went away, leaving the keg and barrow in the ſtreet; in the evening a perſon put them in a yard in that neighbourhood. The real owner of the keg and barrow, by calling on the Printers hereof and paying the coſt of this advertiſement, may be informed in whoſe care they are. *Philadelphia, January 18, 1779.*

Philadelphia, January 4, 1779.

PURSUANT to a requeſt ſignified to me by a number of the Proprietors of Indiana, "that I would call a Meeting of the Company to chuſe a Preſident and determine on matters of the greateſt importance to the Proprietors." I therefore hereby inform all perſons concerned, that they are requeſted to meet in this city, at the Indian Queen tavern, in Fourth-ſtreet, on the fifth day of April next, between the hours of three and five o'clock in the afternoon, then and there to take into conſideration ſuch matters as ſhall be propoſed.

‖ 14w. THOMAS WHARTON, V. P.

Juſt Publiſhed, and to be ſold, by
HALL and SELLERS,

PROCEEDINGS of a GENERAL COURT MARTIAL for the TRIAL of MAJOR GENERAL SCHUYLER.

York Goal, December 31, 1778.

WAS committed into my cuſtody a certain JOHN BANE, who ſays he is a ſervant to Michael Edger Speakman, living in Concord townſhip, Cheſter county; he is a Scotch lad, about 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, face a little pitted with the ſmall-pox, has brown hair, and is about 17 years of age. And on the 15th day of December inſtant was committed a certain Negroe man, named WILL, who ſays he did belong to a certain John Snapp, who lived on the Falls of Patowmack, about ten miles from George-Town; he is about 5 feet nine or ten inches high, a likely fellow, about 24 years of age, born in Charles county, Maryland, about 7 miles from Port-Tobacco. Their maſters are deſired to come, pay the charges, and take them away, otherwiſe they will be ſold in the ſpace of three weeks for their fees.

‖ 1w. MICHAEL GRAYBIL, Goaler.

January 8, 1779.

THE Subſcriber, living in Marlborough townſhip, Philadelphia county, after much patience, finds himſelf under the diſagreeable neceſſity to notify that his wife ANN MARY, in the night of the 17th of December laſt, did elope from him the ninth time, and has ſince contracted debts on him: Wherefore he forewarns all perſons not to truſt her on his account, as he will pay no debts of her contracting, but proſecute according to law thoſe that do truſt her. And as ſhe is fond of ſtrong liquor, he will not take her into his houſe in ſickneſs or health, but alſo make uſe of the law againſt the perſons that would impoſe her upon him. HENRY HAAS. ¶

January 12, 1779.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, living in Eaſt-Nottingham, Cheſter county, ſome time laſt fall, a black and white ſpotted STEER, marked on the off ear with a halfpenny cut out. The owner is deſired to come in three weeks after date, prove property, pay charges, and take him away. DANIEL KING. ¶

CAME to the plantation belonging to Peter Deſhong, in Paſſyunk townſhip, the 23d of December laſt, A light ſorrel HORSE, with a bald face, and had no ſhoes on. The owner, proving his property, and paying charges, may have him again, by applying to

¶ DANIEL HUVER.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcribers, in Newtown townſhip, Bucks county, ſome time laſt ſummer, Three red and white two year old HEIFERS, without ear-marks. The owner or owners, proving property and paying charges, may have them again.

‖ JACOB BUCKMAN, or
Dec. 25, 1778. THOMAS BUCKMAN, Smith.

Pennſylvania, ſs.

The SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *of the Commonwealth of* PENNSYLVANIA,

To ALL to whom theſe Preſents ſhall come, GREETING:

WHEREAS, by virtue and in purſuance of ſundry laws of this Commonwealth, heretofore paſſed and enacted for the better ſecurity of the government thereof, divers perſons have been apprehended, and in due courſe of law committed to priſon, having been convicted or charged with pertinaciouſly refuſing to take the ſeveral oaths or affirmations required by the ſaid laws from the ſubjects of this State, and many of the perſons ſo charged or convicted do now remain in ſeveral of the priſons of this State. AND WHEREAS, by an Act of Aſſembly paſſed at the laſt ſeſſions, and dated the fifth day of December laſt, entitled "A farther Supplement to the Act, entitled, An Act for the better ſecurity of government," all the pains, penalties and diſabilities, impoſed by any former Acts of Aſſembly (except thoſe of electing and being elected, or appointed to any office or place of truſt or profit, or ſerving on juries) were declared from thenceforth to ceaſe and determine. NOW KNOW YE, that the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania, duly conſidering the nature, purport and tendency of the ſaid Act of Aſſembly, and alſo the circumſtances and ſituation of the ſaid priſoners, have pardoned, remitted and releaſed, and by theſe preſents do pardon, remit and releaſe unto the ſaid parties, and every of them, ſo ſtanding charged and convicted as aforeſaid, by whatſoever name or names they may be called or known, all and every the ſaid offence or crime of recuſancy as aforeſaid, and all puniſhments, pains and penalties, inflicted by any of the ſaid laws or any judgment of any Court of Law thereupon, other than any fine or fines duly impoſed by any of the ſaid Court or Courts of Law in this Commonwealth: And do by theſe preſents hereby ſupercede all warrants, or orders of commitment or detainers whatſoever, heretofore iſſued by any Court, Juſtice of Peace, or other perſon in authority under this Commonwealth, except as herein before mentioned. And all Sheriffs, Coroners, Under-Sheriffs, Gaolers and others, are hereby authoriſed and required, on payment of priſon fees and other fees, to enlarge and ſet at liberty all perſons committed or detained by reaſon of the premiſes, for which this ſhall be their ſufficient warrant. Being not willing that the ſaid recuſants, or any of them ſhall be farther moleſted, by any Sheriffs, Juſtices, Bailiffs, or other our Miniſters or Succeſſors, or be aggrieved or diſturbed in any thing by occaſion of the premiſes, except for any fines as herein before mentioned; and being alſo willing that theſe letters patent (as to all and ſingular the premiſes aforementioned) be and remain good, firm, valid and effectual in Law, although the crimes and offences aforeſaid be not fully ſet forth, and that this releaſe, remiſſion and exoneration, of all and every the ſaid recuſants, be in all Courts within this Commonwealth, and elſewhere, interpreted and adjudged in the moſt favourable ſenſe, for their more ſure diſcharge, and alſo be pleaded and allowed in all the ſaid Courts without any other writ, grant or declaration, in that behalf obtained or to be obtained. Any defect or defects in theſe letters patent contained, or any act, ordinance, proviſion, proclamation or reſtriction, or any other thing, cauſe or matter whatſoever, to the contrary hereof, in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

GIVEN, by order of the Council, under the Hand of His Excellency JOSEPH REED, *Eſq; Preſident, and the Seal of the State, at Philadelphia, this Twenty-ninth day of December, in the Year of Our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Seventy-eight.*

JOSEPH REED, PRESIDENT.

Atteſt. T. MATLACK, Secretary.

Pennſylvania, ſs.

BY THE SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL *of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania,*

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the foreſtalling the markets, and engroſſing great quantities of articles of uſual conſumption, have a manifeſt tendency to enhance prices, and are highly odious and puniſhable by law. But when ſuch practices are extended to bread and the other neceſſaries of life, they become diſtreſſing and ruinous to the induſtrious poor, and moſt heinouſly criminal. In order, therefore, to prevent as much as poſſible the inhabitants of this State from unwarily falling into ſuch dangerous and illegal practices, WE DO HEREBY MAKE IT KNOWN, That we have cauſed proſecutions to be commenced againſt ſome perſons charged with the above offences. And we do ſtrictly charge the Juſtices of Peace, Conſtables and other Civil Officers, to make due enquiry into the above offences: And we do require the faithful inhabitants and ſubjects of this State, to whoſe knowledge the ſame may come, to make diſcovery thereof to the Officers of Juſtice, in order that the perpetrators may be brought to ſpeedy and condign puniſhment.

GIVEN, by order of the Council, under the Hand of His Excellency JOSEPH REED, *Eſq; Preſident, and the Seal of the State, at Philadelphia, this Eighteenth day of January, in the Year of Our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Seventy-nine.*

JOSEPH REED, PRESIDENT.

GOD SAVE THE COMMONWEALTH.

Atteſted by order of the Council,
T. MATLACK, Secretary.

IN CONGRESS, *January* 2, 1779.

WHEREAS these United States, unprovided with revenues, and not heretofore in a condition to raise them, have, in the course of the present war, repeatedly been under the necessity of emitting bills of credit, for the redemption of which the faith of these United States has been solemnly pledged; and the credit of which their honour and safety as well as justice is highly concerned to support and establish. And whereas to that end it is essentially necessary to ascertain the periods of their redemption, and seasonably to establish funds, which, in due time, without distressing the people, shall make adequate provision for the same. And whereas, in apportioning the payments for the said fund, it is expedient that an extra sum be called for the current year, both on account of the present ease of paying it and to reduce the surplus in circulation. Therefore,

Resolved. That these United States be called on to pay in their respective quotas of fifteen millions of dollars in the year 1779, and of six millions of dollars annually for 18 years from and after the year 1779, as a fund for sinking the emissions and loans of these United States to the 31st day of December, 1778, inclusive.

That if the continuance and circumstances of the war shall make any further emissions necessary the year ensuing, they shall be sunk in the manner and within the period aforesaid.

That any of the bills emitted by order of Congress, prior to the year 1780, and no others, be received in payment of the said quotas.

That the bills received on the said quotas, except those for the year 1779, be applied first for payment of the interest, and secondly of the principal of loans made by these United States, prior to the year 1780, and that the residue, together with those received on the quotas of the year 1779, be not re-issued, but burned and destroyed as Congress shall direct.

And whereas many counterfeits have appeared in circulation, of various denominations, of the emissions of May 20, 1777, and April 11, 1778, and counterfeits of these emissions have lately been issued by our enemies at New-York, and are found to be spreading and increasing fast in various parts of these United States; whereby individuals are defrauded, prices enhanced, and the credit of the paper currency greatly injured; and it is become necessary for the security of individuals and safety of the public, that those two emissions should cease to be a circulating medium, and should be called in and exchanged, or otherwise provided for as soon as may be with convenience to the present holders. Therefore,

Resolved, That the following bills be taken out of circulation, namely, the whole emissions of May 20, 1777, and April 11, 1778.

That they be brought in for that purpose in the manner hereafter provided by the first day of June next, and not afterwards redeemable.

That they be received for debts and taxes into the Continental Treasury, and into the State Treasuries for Continental taxes, until the first day of June next.

That they be received until the first day of June next into the Continental Loan Offices, either on loan or to be exchanged at the election of the owners, for other bills of the like tenor, to be provided for that purpose.

That the bills lodged in the said offices to be so exchanged, be there registered, and indented certificates thereof given to the owners by the respective Commissioners of the said offices.

That the Commissioners of the Loan-Offices make returns to the Treasury Board, immediately after the first day of June next, of the amount of the bills received into their respective offices to be exchanged as aforesaid, and that proper bills to exchange the same be furnished and ready to be delivered out at their said offices, within 60 days from and after the said first day of June.

That the first mentioned bills, as they are brought into the Treasuries and Loan-Offices, be immediately crossed and struck through with a circular punch of one inch diameter, to be afterwards examined and burned, as Congress shall direct. *Extract from the Minutes*,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

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THE NEW-ENGLAND PRIMER, &c. &c.

At same Place may be had,

Writing Paper, by the Ream or Quire; Parchment, by the Roll or single Skin; Temple and Dutch Spectacles; Penknives of various Sorts; Knives and Forks for Gentlemen of the Army or Hunters; Black Lead Pencils and Pencil Cases; Sealing Wax; and Blanks of all Kinds.

ALSO,

A few of DR. HILL's PATENTED MEDICINES.

DAVID LENOX, & Co.

Have for Sale, at their Store in Front-street, a few Doors below Chestnut-street,

Madeira Wine by the pipe, quarter-cask or gallon.
Jamaica Spirit, } by the hogshead or gallon.
West-India Rum, }
Green and Bohea Tea.
Double and single refined Loaf Sugar.
Muscovado Sugar.
Coffee.
A few bags of Shot. And
A quantity of coarse Woollens.

Philadelphia, January 4, 1779.

CAME to the stable of the subscriber, a bay MARE COLT. The owner is desired to prove his property, pay charges, and take her away.

¶ JOSEPH BAKER.

NOW SELLING,
Wholesale and Retail, by
HALL & SELLERS,

Poor Richard's and the Pocket Almanacks, for the present Year.

Now selling at BELL's Book-Store, in Third-street, Philadelphia,

A MANUAL of CATHOLIC PRAYERS,
AND OTHER
CHRISTIAN DEVOTIONS.

For the use of those ROMAN CATHOLICS who ardently aspire after salvation.

Also at said Bell's may be had HOLY BIBLES, for the pocket or the family, with the psalms of the Presbyterians.

N. B. Chambaud's, Boyer's, Nugent's, Dyche's, Bailey's, Martin's, Johnson's, Entick's, Ashe's, Schrivelius's, Hedericus's, Ainsworth's, Littleton's, Cole's, and Young's Dictionaries, with all the valuable Delphini and other Classics, whether in Greek or Latin, may also be had at said Bell's Book-Store. †

Easton, December 23, 1778.

WHEREAS many of the HORSES belonging to the United States, in forwarding on from camp to the westward, have, by weakness and other unavoidable accidents, been left behind and strayed away: It is therefore earnestly requested of all those who may have taken any of them up, that they do forthwith deliver them to me or my deputies at Sussex, in the state of New-Jersey, Northampton and Bucks counties, in the state of Pennsylvania. All persons concealing them after this notice may depend on being prosecuted. Information where any of them may be concealed will be thankfully received and rewarded, by

¶ ROBERT LETTIS HOOPER, jun. D Q. M. G.

THE PUBLIC are hereby NOTIFIED, That *SAMUEL WETHERILL* and *COMPANY* have erected a Factory, for making and cutting all kinds of FILES, any person having old ones to dispose of may have the best price for them, or may have them cut again, by applying at the Factory in Cherry-alley, between Arch and Race-streets, near Third street. Any person who understands forging or cutting Files may meet with good encouragement, by applying as above. ¶

Philadelphia, January 12, 1779.

To be SOLD,

For Continental Currency of any date,

A Valuable tract of LAND, containing 1300 acres, situate on a large run, the east side of the north-east branch of Susquehanna river, near the Cataweesy-creek, about nine miles from the county town of Sunbury, in Northumberland county, in a thick settlement near Ellis Hewes's. For further particulars, enquire of EDWARD BONSALL and ABRAHAM SHOEMAKER, at their Office in Fourth-street, near Spruce-street, or WHITE MATLACK, at the corner of Spruce, Front and Water-streets. ‡

Letter of Colonel de la Balme to the Marquis de St. Lezere, Captain Commandant of the Frigate la Chimere, at Chester.

SIR,

BEING on board the frigate under your command, I heard how it had been given out there, as if three of your sailor deserters had taken refuge to my œconomy of workmen. I wish you might not depart from hence with an idea so disadvantageous to an establishment, which took its first rise from sentiments of humanity: For indeed my taking notice of seamen proceeded more from a desire of lending a helping hand to my countrymen in distress, than from any other motive. Therefore I am anxious to prevent you by this letter, and to mention that I have made all possible enquiries to discover the least foundation to such reports, but to no purpose. However, as men, by assuming fictitious names, and telling a subtle story, might in that respect have imposed upon my good nature, so I beg that you would send up to me a trusty person, of whom I could learn the certain truth, and you at the same time receive the most ample satisfaction. Until such sort of ecclaircisement may be had, be kind enough, Sir, to believe me to be a good Frenchman, and to accept of the assurances of that particular consideration, wherewith I am, Sir, *Your most humble Servant*,

DE LA BALME.

N. B. In order to manifest the uprightness of my intentions, that nothing may be laid to my charge, to prevent all unjust surmises, and to keep off the sailors of the French marine, who, in expectation of finding a safe asylum at my workshops, would desert, I shall publish this letter, and exhibit to Monsieur GERARD, the French Envoy, the roll of all Frenchmen in my employ. ¶

West Fallowfield, Chester County, January 8, 1779.

WHEREAS JOHN M'ILHENEY, of West Fallowfield township, Chester county, left his father's house about nine weeks since, intending to get employ as a waggoner in the continental service; since which time his parents have heard nothing of him, which makes them very uneasy. If he is living, he is desired to write to them; or any person that can give information of him, whether living or dead, the favour will be thankfully acknowledged by WILLIAM M'ILHENEY.

N. B. He is 19 years of age, of a fair complexion, and about 5 feet 6 inches high. ‖

WAS taken up on the first of this instant January, a BAY MARE, with a star in her forehead, about 14½ hands high, supposed to be near 12 years old, has some white on her back, is branded P on both shoulders, paces and trots. Whoever has lost said Mare, may have her again, on application to DUNCAN LEECH, near the Black Horse on Frankford road, proving property, and paying charges. ¶

Philadelphia, ss. *January* 4, 1779.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Collectors of the city and county of Philadelphia, that they proceed without delay to collect the outstanding taxes of their respective duplicates, and pay the same to the County Treasurer, on or before the tenth day of February next, on which day the Commissioners are to meet at the Court-House, at nine o'clock in the morning, in order to make a final settlement with the said Collectors. Should any neglect to pay the strictest attention to this notice, they will without distinction be proceeded against as the law directs.

By order of the Board of Commissioners,

¶ GEORGE HONEY, jun. Clerk.

A few FIRKINS of
Excellent IRISH BUTTER,
To be sold by MARACHIE and TILLYER,
at the corner of Arch and Second-streets, and
SAMUEL TAYLOR, on the upper side of Market-street, between Front and Water-streets. ¶

January 4, 1779.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN from the Continental Yard, on the night of the 29th of December last, Two CONTINENTAL HORSES, branded C. A. by a certain JOHN ANNY, a Waggoner, in the service of the United States. Whoever takes up said ANNY, and brings him to this town, and delivers him to the subscriber, shall be entitled to a reward of eighty dollars for himself alone, and ten dollars for each of the horses. J. HILTZHEIMER. §

January 1, 1779.

WAS stopped a few days ago, and taken from an English deserter, as he called himself, a SILVER WATCH, with a silver face, maker's name Payne on the face, supposed to be stolen, as he acknowledged he had plundered it in the Great Valley. The owner of said watch, by applying to the subscriber, living in Birmingham, near Chad's Ford, and proving his property, paying the charges of this advertisement, may have it again. ¶ CALEB BRINTON.

Philadelphia, January 11, 1779.

THE SUBSCRIBER thinks it necessary, as he has been so long absent from the city, to give this Public Notice to his Friends, former Customers, and the Public, that he has the

BREWING BUSINESS

carried on as usual, at his Brewery, at the corner of Race and Fourth-streets, where those that are pleased to make trial of his BEER may be supplied with different sorts. And any persons giving in their names in time may be furnished in season with PALE ALE, for bottling, of an extraordinary quality, either for sale or family use. ¶4w. FRANCIS WADE.

To the PUBLIC.

WHEREAS many of the public lamps of the city of Philadelphia have been wickedly and wantonly broke, and otherwise damaged, and the cups and oil taken out by some evil disposed persons, who have yet been undiscovered. The Wardens of the city hereby offer a reward of FORTY DOLLARS to any person or persons who shall give information of the offenders, so that they be brought to justice and convicted of the offence. And whereas some of the Watchmen have lately been maliciously treated, and put in danger of their lives, by evil disposed persons, the Wardens have for the peace, safety and good order of the city, and to prevent robberies, thought proper to authorize and strictly enjoin the nightly watchmen to challenge and apprehend all strollers, night walkers and vagabonds, that cannot give a reasonable account of themselves, after the hour of eleven in the night, and them to hold in custody by the Constable till they can be legally examined before some Justice of the peace of the said city, and dealt with according to law, except country people coming to market. And it is hoped the gentlemen and good people of this city, as they consider their own benefit, will treat the Watchmen with civility. And all Constables and other peace officers are required, and the good citizens are requested, to be aiding and assisting to the Watchmen if necessary in the execution of this order. ¶

By order of the Wardens,

Jan. 7, 1779. GEORGE HONEY, jun. Clerk.

JAMES TALBOT

Hath for sale, at his store, the south side of Race-street, between Second and Third-streets, and fifth door above Moravian-alley, on the most reasonable terms,

OLD spirits, rum, sugar, coffee, hyson and bohea tea, chalk, whiting, tin and queen's ware, wine in bottles, &c. &c. ¶

JUST OPENED, and to be SOLD on the most reasonable terms, by

GARRETT COTTRINGER,

At his Store, in Chestnut-street, formerly occupied by Mr. Joseph Wilson, two doors above the Lottery-Office,

The following ARTICLES, viz.

OLD Madeira Wine, Spirit, Rum, Anniseed, Sugar, Coffee, Pepper, Chocolate, Ginger, Allspice, Raisins, Nutmegs, Cloves, and the very best HYSON and BOHEA TEA. ¶

FORTY DOLLARS Reward.

MADE his escape from the Constable of East-Nottingham, county of Chester, and State of Pennsylvania, on the sixth of this month, A certain DANIEL BROWN, this country born, about five feet ten inches high, long visage, dark complexion: Had on when he made his escape, a long white coat, no jacket, tow trowsers; he has a sore leg. Said Brown confessed he enlisted in the continental service with John O'Neal to drive a waggon, and received ten dollars bounty, and then deserted; and likewise, that he enlisted as substitute for nine months in the Maryland militia to serve under Capt. Dobson, and received one hundred and fifty pounds for said nine months, and that he deserted the first day they marched, and it is reported he hath enlisted and taken several bounties since. Whoever takes up said deserter, and secures him in any goal, shall be entitled to the above reward, paid by

December 18, 1778. ‡ 4 w. JOHN M'BEATH.

January 6, 1779.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of JOHN PAUL, late of Vincent township, Chester county, deceased, are desired to make payment from this day to the tenth of February next inclusive, otherwise they will be compelled to it by law. And those who have any just demands against said estate, are also desired to bring in their accounts properly attested, within the above mentioned limited time, otherwise they will be precluded from their demands; as a general settlement is intended to be made by MARY PAUL, Administratrix. ¶

January 5, 1779.

WHEREAS ELIZABETH WHITEAKER, the wife of John Whiteaker, hath eloped from his bed and lodgings: This is to forewarn all persons from trusting her on my account, as I will not pay any debts of her contracting from the date hereof.

† JOHN WHITEAKER.

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by HALL and SELLERS, at the NEW-PRINTING-OFFICE, near the MARKET.